



CROP-WEATHER REPORT

Released: 2:00 p.m., Monday
May 15, 2006

Week of May 8 – May 14, 2006

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Cool, mostly dry week.

Lack of Spring rains becoming a concern.

Crop progress lagging behind average pace.

Cooler weather coupled with little moisture in most areas continued across the State last week. Most stations reported both below normal temperatures and below normal precipitation. Temperatures ranged widely with high temperatures mostly in the upper 60's to upper 70's, and lows in the teens to low 30's. Hard freezes at night occurred in nearly all areas. Precipitation was below normal across the State except for areas in the Northwest and Northeast.

Topsoil moisture was rated adequate to surplus in 58 percent of the State, 2 points below last week. Subsoil moisture was rated adequate in only 46 percent of the State. High mountain snow continued to melt with rivers and streams running high. Stock water supplies were adequate in 76 percent of the State. Irrigation will begin for some producers. Fieldwork continued at a slow pace for small grains and corn while producers neared completion seeding sugarbeets. Cooler seasonal temperatures and the lack of Spring rain have livestock producers concerned about rangeland grasses.

SOIL MOISTURE TABLE

	TOPSOIL				SUBSOIL		
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-yr Avg	This Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	Percent						
Very Short	3	2	4	11	18	14	22
Short	39	38	22	38	36	40	47
Adeq	57	59	69	50	46	40	30
Surp	1	1	5	1	0	6	1

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

ITEM	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Barley Pltd	80	76	85	90
Barley Emgd	59	53	53	63
Barley Jntd	5	1	3	5
Oats Pltd	63	52	73	71
Oats Emgd	36	27	42	40
Oats Jntd	1	0	1	4
Spring Wheat Pltd	57	50	70	71
Spring Wheat Emgd	29	23	38	40
Spring Wheat Jntd	1	0	1	3
Winter Wht Jntd	34	23	61	56
Winter Wht Boot	0	0	2	11
Sugarbeet Pltd	96	94	98	95
Sugarbeet Emgd	45	25	41	41
Corn Pltd	43	27	52	56
Corn Emgd	4	2	2	13

FIELD CROP REPORT: An average of 5.1 days were suitable for fieldwork. One-third of the winter wheat crop was jointed, about one week behind average. Condition held steady with 76 percent rated good or better. Small grain progress continued to lag behind the average pace. Hard freezes at night slowed growth. Barley had been planted on 80 percent of the expected acreage, behind both last year and the average, while emergence also fell behind the average pace. Eighty percent of the barley crop was in good condition. Producers finished seeding 63 percent of the oats and 57 percent of the spring wheat, both behind the 5-year average and last year. Small grains were just beginning to joint. Sugarbeets were progressing at a normal pace with planting virtually complete and almost half of the crop emerged. Corn planting fell further behind the average pace and emergence was slow.

CROP CONDITION TABLE

ITEM	V POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCEL
	Percent				
Barley	0	0	20	80	0
Winter Wht	0	2	22	75	1

LIVESTOCK PROGRESS TABLE

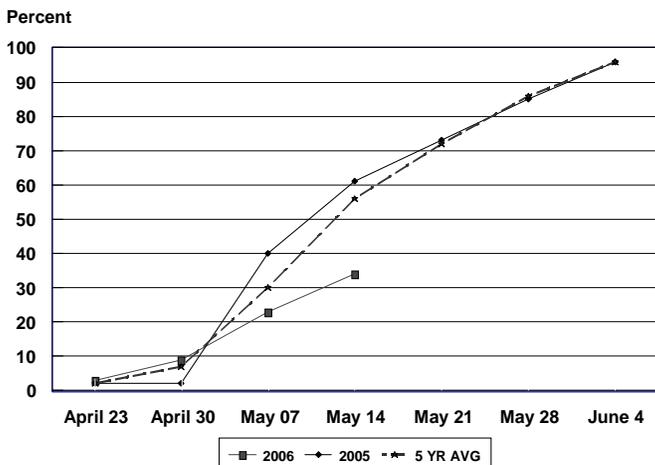
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
Spring Calves Born	95	92	96	96
Farm Flock Ewes Lambd	94	92	97	96
Range Flock Ewes Lambd	54	41	51	51
Range Flock Sheep Shorn	82	69	86	89

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE, AND RANGE REPORT: Range and pasture conditions again improved slightly and continued to be better than the last few years with 53 percent rated good and 1 percent excellent, compared with 24 percent good and 6 percent excellent last year. Calving was near completion with 95 percent of the calves on the ground, near the average pace. Farm flock lambing was also virtually complete at 94 percent, compared with the average of 96 percent. Range flock lambing and shearing were 54 and 82 percent complete, compared with the averages of 51 and 89 percent. Calf and lamb losses remained mostly normal. Producers just started moving livestock to summer ranges.

PASTURE AND RANGE FEED

ITEM	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	Percent			
Very Poor	0	0	7	12
Poor	9	11	23	23
Fair	37	43	40	43
Good	53	46	24	20
Excellent	1	0	6	2

Winter Wheat Jointed



WEATHER SUMMARY: Temperatures during the week ending Friday, May 12th, were below normal across the State with exceptions in the West. Averages ranged from 4.8 degrees below normal in Sheridan to 1.1 degrees above normal in Jackson. The high temperature was 79 in Worland, Lander, and Riverton while the low was 13 in Rawlins. Precipitation was below normal except for some areas in the Northwest and Northeast. The most precipitation was reported in Dillinger with 1.26 inches, Newcastle with 0.84 inches, and Sheridan with 0.68 inches. Most stations in the Southwest part of the State reported only a trace to no precipitation at all.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDED MAY 12, 2006

TEMPERATURE			: PRECIPITATION					

STATION	MAX	MIN	NORM	WEEK	NORM	DATE	CUMULATIVE	1/
			DEP.	AMT.	DEP.	1/06	THRU	DEP.
			FROM	PAST	FROM	TO	CURR	FROM
			NORM	WEEK	NORM	DATE	WEEK	NORM

SNAKE DRAINAGE								
Jackson	71	22	1.1	0.33	-0.18	5.91	5.95	-0.04
Afton	69	20	-1.1	0.10	-0.44	5.33	6.90	-1.57
GREEN & BEAR DRAINAGE								
Uinta County AP	69	26	-1.0	0.00	-0.37	3.07	4.07	-1.00
Big Piney AP	77	14	-1.2	0.00	-0.22	1.56	2.11	-0.55
Rock Springs AP	75	22	-0.8	0.00	-0.29	1.91	3.52	-1.61
BIG HORN DRAINAGE								
Cody	75	28	-1.2	0.54	0.10	2.08	3.23	-1.15
Deaver	76	29	-4.1	0.20	-0.05	1.05	1.34	-0.29
Greybull AP	78	29	-3.5	0.48	0.17	0.83	2.36	-1.53
Powell Field St	74	32	-3.0	0.48	0.17	0.92	1.75	-0.83
Worland FAA AP	79	29	-3.6	0.42	0.07	1.48	2.45	-0.97
POWDER, LITTLE MO. & TONGUE DRAINAGE								
Kaycee	77	29	-2.7	0.64	0.07	2.79	4.28	-1.49
Sheridan WSO AP	75	24	-4.8	0.68	0.12	3.45	5.16	-1.71
BELLE FOURCHE DRAINAGE								
Dillinger	74	26	-4.0	1.26	0.66	4.49	4.61	-0.12
CHEYENNE & NIOBRARA DRAINAGE								
Newcastle	74	27	-5.9	0.84	0.28	5.52	4.54	0.98
Redbird	75	28	-2.8	0.19	-0.41	3.05	4.60	-1.55
LOWER PLATTE DRAINAGE								
Casper AP	74	26	-4.4	0.41	-0.12	3.64	4.72	-1.08
Cheyenne AP	73	25	-1.4	0.07	-0.48	3.32	4.58	-1.26
Chugwater	69	26	-4.4	0.09	-0.57	4.30	5.00	-0.70
Douglas AP	77	25	-3.3	0.47	-0.07	2.86	4.35	-1.49
Torrington AP	76	29	-4.0	0.07	-0.48	2.29	4.10	-1.81
Wheatland 4 N	75	28	-2.9	T	-0.57	2.51	3.72	-1.21
WIND RIVER DRAINAGE								
Lander AP	79	24	-2.1	T	-0.54	3.04	5.42	-2.38
Riverton AP	79	26	-2.2	0.04	-0.34	2.37	2.79	-0.42
UPPER PLATTE DRAINAGE								
Laramie AP	71	16	-1.3	0.02	-0.35	1.36	3.41	-2.05
Rawlins AP	76	13	-0.4	0.00	-0.34	1.02	3.44	-2.42
Saratoga	73	16	-2.1	0.00	-0.36	1.76	3.33	-1.57

BLANKS - INDICATE MISSING DATA.

AP - AIRPORT. T - TRACE. () - ESTIMATES.

1/LATE REPORTS CAN CHANGE PREVIOUS WEEK'S CUMULATIVE TOTALS.